

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
June 29, 2020**

Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC	Mark Peterson, MD, Medical Director, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC
Kristen Timbers, NSHC	Carol Charles, NSHC	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle
Joanne Keyes, Wales	Annie Weryiouanna, Native Village of Shishmaref	Axel Jackson, Village of Shaktoolik
Amos Brown, White Mountain	Charles Swanson, Native village of Koyuk	Dorothy Barr, Native Village of White Mountain
Mary Davis, Kawerak	Jason Harrell, NSHC	Tiffany Martinson, Nome Eskimo
Joleen Oleson, Kawerak	Pearl Goodhope, Brevig	John Waghiyi, Savoonga

*Over 40 participants attended today's meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p>Today's Reminder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please keep phone muted unless speaking or asking a question <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Reba Lean at rlean@nshcorp.org anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Announcements/Updates	<p>Angie gave the following announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSHC has implemented a mandatory routine testing policy and as a result of that policy we have identified two new cases of COVID-19 - If you are following our press releases NSHC announced on Friday June 26th that an employee of QCC tested positive - We also shared that the employee has not traveled out of the region for the past 3 months - On Friday we began department wide testing - We did not find any additional positives - Just recently this morning we release another press release in which a village employee tested positive - We were aware of this late last evening and that employee again is a village based employee - The patient has been contacted and safely isolating - State of Alaska Public Health was informed and has contacted the individual and began the process of tracing the close contacts - We have informed the community leaders and are aware and have a plan in place - We have also mobilized a health care response team to go to that village and to offer additional testing to close contacts as well as all community members which is currently underway - Our village clinics are following very strict infection control guidelines and safety protocols throughout the pandemic as well
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, NSHC Medical Director	<p>Dr. Mark Peterson gave medical staff update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska: Over the weekend, the 27th and the 28th, there were quite a few cases in the state, there were a total of about 30 on the 27th, and 33 on the 28th, most of those were residents but there were a lot of non-residents too, on the 27th there were 20 residents and 10 non-residents, on the 28th there were 29 residents and 4 non-residents, total to 883 residents, and 179 non-resident, 521 recovered • On the good side the number of hospitalizations total is the same is 67 and

	<p>deaths 14 last week and has not changed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANMC: 12 employees, 0 inpatients, 67 outpatients • NSHC: 2 additional positive cases, both were routine employee testing without symptoms • We want to continue testing everybody on a regular basis and catching these cases early • Both of the situation are being controlled now and are in isolation and quarantine and contacts are being tested <p>Two new NSHC employee cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These two new cases we are surprised to see them but we have to treat them like we would any positive • There is not a connection that we are aware of to anyone who has traveled or anyone that has been positive they just popped up and we have to deal with it • Time will tell if there was a connection to anyone else • Hopefully it will just be them and no one additional
<p>Survey</p>	<p>Reba gave the survey update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are survey that folks can enter if they have been testing, the last day is tomorrow and we will be choosing a winner for the Alaska Airlines mileage ticket on July 1st
<p>Question and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How many cases in our region now? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: I believe that's 9 individuals in our region that has tested positive and 1 happens to be not in our region right now. We are not sure if the one out of state is recovered yet but the ones in our region would be 2 active cases now. ○ Of those 9 positive cases in our region how many were NSHC employees? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: We had 4 I believe. Two individuals when we first started to do all employee testing right away and then for the last couple of months we didn't have anything and then the one QCC and then the one village based employees which is a total of four. ○ The first two employees that tested positive, when was that compared to the two new NSHC employees testing positive? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: When we first started doing employee testing we had the two individuals that were positive. That was at least two months ago. We don't feel that they have any connections to these two individuals. These two individuals do not have any connection to each other. ○ Do you have any idea where these two positives were contracted? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: We do not. Public does their contact tracing and we test everyone. These two individuals have not traveled outside where they would have picked it up. We're not aware of them being in contact with anyone who had it. State epi said that that has been happen in the state where they do not know where it has been coming from and we do not know. ○ Were the ones that tested positive have amazon accounts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: That's a good question and don't know the answer to that but can bring up with public health.

- **What is Nome’s current travel policy if someone from the village needed to go to Nome to go down to Anchorage for medical?**
 - GS: The process, and its going to be reviewed by the council on July 13th, but the current process is that there is no need for a travel form down to Anchorage but we are requiring a travel form back through Nome and obviously the approach that the City of Nome is taking is whatever the village outlined and their expectation on travel should be followed by the traveler if they are heading back to the village. There are still the two options available in Nome. Quarantine 7 days with testing on day one and day seven or quarantine for 14 days with zero testing.
- **In house facility, when a department has more than one person identified as positive, is there a certain number of employees that they will close the department down and cancel all the appointments?**
 - Dr. P: For example, in QCC we had the one employee, everybody else was tested, and everybody else tested negative and we are testing everybody every week. We haven’t found any additional positives it’s kind of business as usual. We are not going to change taking care of patients there. I think if for example if there is a nursing home where they have an outbreak of people then they do more dramatic treatment of that facility and things change. If you are going to a clinic to get care, if that clinic has recently had more then a couple positives, that facility would normally reassess and possibly shut down, clean everything, and go through the process. I don’t think that there is an exact number but if there is spread in a facility, they are going to treat that more aggressively and they are going to change processes, shut it down, clean it and do all that. If a department is open, I would consider it safe and for you to get seen.
- **Are you testing patients before their appointments?**
 - Dr. P: So, there are certain patients that are required to get tested and we are testing them. So, anybody that goes into labor, admit to the hospital, is having a dental procedure, colonoscopy or upper endoscopy. We are testing all those people who we are required to test. In addition to that some of the ER patients are getting tested because they are being offered to get tested. If someone is coming in for a diabetes check, or heart check, we are not routinely testing them, but we are offering them a test. We are also testing our employees.
- **Discussion was held on the cleaning supplies that are being sent to the villages and who they are being sent too.**